



NRC PUBLIC MEETINGS



U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission



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INTRODUCTION

Public meetings play a significant role in enhancing public confidence in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and its ability to carry out its mission — to protect public health and safety in commercial uses of nuclear energy. The NRC has long recognized the importance and value of public communication and involvement as a key cornerstone of strong, fair regulation of the nuclear industry. As a result, the agency has sought, over time, with the assistance of members of the public and other stakeholders, to ensure full and fair consideration of issues that are brought to NRC's attention.

This brochure presents NRC's public meeting policy and procedures that emphasize enhancement of public participation. It identifies

three categories of staff meetings and outlines the level of public participation, information availability, and follow-up effort associated with each category.



The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has long recognized the importance and value of public involvement in its activities.

proceedings conducted by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, and hearings.

Scope

The information in this brochure applies only to NRC staff-sponsored meetings. There are other procedures and requirements governing Commission meetings, meetings with States, advisory committee meetings, adjudicatory

Notices

All staff-sponsored meetings are posted approximately 10 days in

advance on NRC’s web site at www.nrc.gov. For each meeting, the date, time, location, purpose, category, attendees, and contact are listed. Weekly lists of staff meetings are also posted in NRC’s public document room in Rockville, Maryland. In addition, the NRC announces major meetings in press releases, which are posted to NRC’s web site, faxed to the news media, and mailed to more than 1,000 addressees. For meetings having high public interest, NRC also



Public Meeting Schedule

www.nrc.gov

Meeting Number	Date/ Time	Location	Facility/ Docket	Purpose and Comments	Attendees	NRC Contact
2002-0574	07/31/2002 1:30 pm 07/31/2002 7 pm	Peach Bottom Inn 6085 Delta Road Delta, PA	PEACH BOTTOM 2/ 050-00277 PEACH BOTTOM 3/ 050-00278 Open House 1 hr prior/	Category 3 meeting: Provide the public with information on draft EIS for license renewal for Peach Bottom Station. Identical sessions. (Agenda: ADAMS accession no. ML021900031)	NRR Public	Duke Wheeler (800) 368-5642
2002-0594	07/31/2002 10 am-4 pm	NRC One White Flint N. 11555 Rockville Pike Room O-13 B4 Rockville, MD	SAXTON NUCLEAR FACIL./ 050-00146	Category 1 meeting. Discuss dose modeling technical issues from the review of the License Termination Plan.	NRR;NMSS Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation, Public	Alexander Adams (301) 415-1127
2002-0609	08/01/2002 9 am-2 pm	NRC One White Flint N. 11555 Rockville Pike Room O-4 B6 Rockville, MD	Agenda: ADAMS Acrn/ No. ML022040012/	Category 2 meeting. Continue discussion of NEI outline of implementing guidance for National Fire Protection Association standard NFPA 805. See the agenda Web page.	NRR Nuclear Energy Institute, Industry, Public	Joseph Birmingham (301) 415-2829

places an advertisement in local newspapers several days in advance of a meeting.

Security

As a result of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, attendees at NRC meetings will experience enhanced security procedures. Areas affected include NRC visitor registration, badging, sign-in procedures, and parking. These procedures and certain restrictions on cell phone, taping equipment and camera usage are described later in this brochure.

TYPES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Category 1:

Meetings in this category are typically held with one licensee, vendor, applicant, potential applicant, or petitioner to discuss specific regula-

tory issues regarding their particular facility (or facilities having the same owner), certificate of compli-

ance, license or license application. These meetings provide the public with an opportunity to observe NRC's interactions with licensees, obtain factual information to assist in their understanding of the applicable regulatory issues, and to

offer constructive comments, if applicable.

Examples of this type of meeting could include:

- Annual meetings to discuss NRC's evaluation of a nuclear power plant's performance;
- Regulatory conferences on specific plant problems;
- Pre-decisional enforcement conferences on apparent safety violations;
- Plant restart meetings;
- Licensing actions, such as new



Category 1 meetings are typically held with one licensee and are open to public observation.

applications, renewals and amendments for nuclear power

and speak with NRC staff, before the end of the meeting, if practicable.



Information Provided

In addition to basic information in the meeting notice, an agenda, with names of speakers, items to be discussed, and any appropriate background documents and information to be discussed are identified and made available in NRC's Agency-Wide Documents

Access and Management System

(ADAMS). Help in accessing documents in ADAMS is available from the NRC Public Document Room staff at 1-800-397-4209 or 1-301-415-4737, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., or by Internet at pdr@nrc.gov.

Follow-up and Feedback

Responses to most questions are expected to be provided at the meeting. For certain questions, informal follow-up by telephone or e-mail may be appropriate. Meeting summaries will be made publicly available in ADAMS after the meeting. Forms will be available at the meeting for all attendees to provide feedback on each meeting to help the NRC enhance public participation.

plants; away-from-reactor waste storage sites; large or complex fuel cycle facilities; or waste disposal sites; and

- Inspection exit meetings, such as those for special inspection teams, including Incident Investigation Teams and Augmented Inspection Teams.

Level of Participation

The public is invited to observe the meeting between NRC and the licensee/vendor/applicant and will have the opportunity to communicate with the NRC staff before the end of the meeting. For those meetings lasting more than two hours, more than one opportunity will be provided for the public to engage

Category 2:

Meetings in this category are typically held with a group of industry representatives, licensees, vendors, or non-governmental organizations, such as public interest and citizen groups, to

focus discussions on issues that could apply to several facilities. Examples of such issues are plant system aging, license renewal, decommissioning, and spent fuel

storage. These meetings provide an opportunity for the public to not only observe and obtain factual information, but to also participate by providing NRC with feedback on issues, alternatives, and/or decisions.

Level of Participation

The public is invited to discuss regulatory issues at designated points identified on the agenda.

Information Provided

Information is provided in the same manner as for Category 1 meetings. However, a web page with links to other appropriate background information may also be available.



Category 2 meetings provide an opportunity for the public to provide NRC with feedback on the analysis of issues, alternatives, and/or decisions.

Follow-up and Feedback

Follow-up and feedback are essentially the same as for Category 1 meetings except that meeting

summaries or transcripts will be available on the NRC web, if a specific site is established.

Category 3:

Meetings in this category are typically held with representatives of non-government organizations, private citizens or interested parties, or various businesses or industries to fully engage them in discussion. These types of meetings provide an opportunity for NRC and the public to work directly together to ensure that the issues and concerns are understood and considered by NRC. The intended objective for the public at this type

suggestions with regard to regulatory issues.

Examples of this type of meeting include:

- Town hall or roundtable discussions;
- Environmental Impact Statement scoping meetings;
- Workshops;
- NRC's annual Regulatory Information Conference;
- The Nuclear Safety Research Conference; and
- Proposed rulemaking meetings



Category 3 meetings fully engage the public in discussions.

of meeting is to work with the NRC and to provide a range of views, information, concerns and

Level of Participation

This type of meeting, where public participation is actively sought, provides the public with the widest participation opportunities with NRC and the other participants throughout the meeting.

Information Provided

A specific web page is created for this type of meeting, where all relevant documents, including the agenda, participants, and background documents, will be posted and linked. This information will also be available at the meeting and in ADAMS.

Follow-up and Feedback

Follow-up and feedback at these types of meeting is similar to that in Category 2 meetings, but meeting summaries or transcripts will be provided in ADAMS and linked to the NRC web site.



Whenever practicable, NRC will make a reasonable effort to provide teleconferencing access for meetings which are not easily accessible to interested citizens.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

There may be special circumstances that may require flexibility in adjusting public participation levels for certain meetings. For instance, meetings that would normally be characterized as Category 1 may be changed to Category 2 or 3 because of unusually high public interest. Advance notification of any meeting changes will be announced promptly on the NRC web site.

TELECONFERENCING

Whenever practicable, NRC will make a reasonable effort to provide teleconferencing access for meetings which are not easily accessible to interested citizens. Information about teleconferencing will be provided in individual meeting notices.

SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

Due to the events of September 11, NRC's visitor security procedures were further strengthened. Attendees at all NRC-sponsored meetings should expect to encounter the following security measures, which are in place to protect our employees and visitors, alike. Security requirements may differ, however, for meetings in remote locations.

Visitor Registration, Badging and Sign-in Procedures

All visitors attending meetings at NRC's White Flint North complex in Rockville, Maryland, are

screened through metal detectors and their packages are x-rayed. All visitors age 18 and older must present a picture ID, and register their name, organization, time, place and purpose of their visit. Registered visitors are free to move about without an escort in the following public spaces located on the first floor lobby

area: NRC Public Document Room; Commission Meeting Room, when open for a meeting; the NUREG Café; Exhibit Area; Cafeteria; Snack 'N Go; the Credit Union; and the

public restrooms. Any visitors going above the first floor lobby level must display an NRC visitor badge and be escorted by an NRC employee.

Parking

Visitor vehicles are subject to inspection before being allowed into the NRC complex. Visitors must have prior approval, arranged

by an NRC employee, to park inside the garage or outside visitor parking area. Permission to park in the NRC garage requires an NRC escort before driving into the garage and to accompany the visitor from the garage to the receptionist area for screening, registration, and badging.



Use of Cell Phones, Taping Equipment and Cameras

Portable electronic devices are allowed into NRC buildings and public meetings. This includes cellular telephones,

paggers, palm-size computing devices, two-way radios, audio/data recorders, and portable computers. Cameras and video recording devices (e.g., camcorders) are permitted in public meetings on a case-by-case basis, with the approval of the Director, Office of Public Affairs, or the Director, Division of Facilities and Security. Devices that could interrupt or distract from public meetings (e.g.,

cellular phones, pagers, two-way radios) are not to be used during public meetings.

Restrictions on Packages, Searches

Signs, banners, posters and displays not larger than 18"x18" are permitted at NRC meetings; however, they cannot be waved, held over one's head or generally moved about in the meeting room because they are distracting to the participants and audience. Signs, banners, posters and displays affixed to sticks, poles, and the like are not permitted in the meeting room.

Use of NRC Copiers, Telephones, and Fax Machines

Visitors may not use these items without the approval and supervision of an NRC employee. Visitors may use the lobby level telephones to make brief in-house and local calls.

Visitor control procedures are established for remote NRC public meetings and hearings based on an overall assessment by the NRC's Physical Security Branch taking

into account potential security concerns. Security requirements relative to visitors at similar facilities nationwide may differ based on factors that may not be readily apparent and, therefore, meetings are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.



SUGGESTIONS

If you have suggestions for improving public meetings, please provide them using the public meeting feedback form, available at public meetings, or otherwise in writing to: The Assistant for Communications, Deputy Executive Director for Management Services, Office of the Executive Director for Operations, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555.

Comments on NRC's public participation policies, procedures, or on any of NRC's programs, can also be submitted at the link on the Public Involvement Page on NRC's web site at www.nrc.gov.



For Additional Information Contact:

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Telephone: 301-415-8200 or 800-368-5642
Fax: 301-415-2234
Internet: OPA@NRC.GOV
Web site: www.nrc.gov

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